

9305 '01 FEB -1 P1:26

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U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

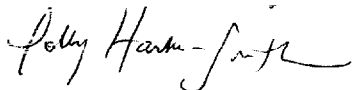
RE: Docket #98P-0151/CP1

To whom it may concern:

Please grant petition #98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. There are many reasons to support this. Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain. It is impossible to move downed animals humanely and the process often causes injuries ranging from bruises to broken bones. Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. There is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (Mad Cow Disease), a disease that has been linked to a fatal human illness (Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease). And finally industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



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98P-0151

C3793

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